

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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- 1 1. A method of providing a software testing service comprising the steps of:  
2 receiving, by a service provider, at least one software component from a customer;  
3 providing, by said service provider, test code for testing said at least one software  
4 component;  
5 testing with said test code said at least one software component;  
6 monitoring, by said service provider, results of said testing; and  
7 providing, by said service provider, the results of said testing to said customer.
  - 1 2. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of charging said customer for  
2 providing said software component testing service.
  - 1 3. The method of claim 2 wherein said step of charging is performed on a per session  
2 basis.
  - 1 4. The method of claim 2 wherein said step of charging is performed on a periodic  
2 basis.
  - 1 5. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of receiving is done over a network.
  - 1 6. The method of claim 5 wherein said step of receiving is done over a TCP/IP  
2 network.
  - 1 7. The method of claim 5 wherein said step of receiving is done over the Internet.
  - 1 8. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of receiving further comprises the step of  
2 receiving directions regarding the type of testing to be done on said software component.

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1 9. The method of claim 8 wherein said step of receiving directions regarding the type  
2 of testing to be done is selected from the group consisting of functional testing, regression  
3 testing, load testing and compliance testing.

1 10. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of receiving further comprises the step of  
2 receiving directions regarding how to process results from said testing.

1 11. The method of claim 1 wherein at least a portion of the results from said testing is  
2 provided in a pass/fail format.

1 12. The method of claim 1 wherein at least a portion of the results from said load  
2 testing are provided in a graphical format.

1 13. The method of claim 1 wherein said software component comprises an EJB.

1 14. The method of claim 1 wherein said software component comprises an  
2 application.

1 15. The method of claim 1 wherein said software testing service is provided as a web  
2 site.

1 16. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of providing further comprises the step  
2 of providing access to multiple containers for testing the performance of said software  
3 component in different ones of said multiple containers.

1 17. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of providing further comprises the step  
2 of determining the parameters of the data sets to test a software component by examining  
3 the interface of each method in the software component and determining what inputs and  
4 outputs must be specified for that software component.

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1 18. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of testing further comprises the step of  
2 testing program components typically used through a graphical user interface by building  
3 test drivers for the components and testing without the graphical user interface.

1 19. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of using a test warehouse to  
2 store test data for customers for later use by the customers.

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